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LETTER DATED 17 DECEMBER 1992 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that United States aircraft continued to violate Iraqi airspace for the purpose of surveillance and provocation during the period from 8 to 15 December 1992, as follows.

8-9 December 1992

(a) Northern region: 25 sorties, flown at speeds of 600-900 km/h and at altitudes of 2,000-7,000 m, centred on Zakho, Dohuk, Mosul, Tall Afar, Amadiyah and Ayn Zalah.

(b) Southern region: 22 sorties, flown by F-4, F-15 and F-16 aircraft at speeds of 600-900 km/h and at altitudes of 5,000-9,000 m, centred over Amarah, Samawah, Nasiriyah, Shatrah, Salman, Jaliba and Busayyah.

9-10 December 1992

(a) Northern region: 18 sorties, flown at speeds of 600-900 km/h and at altitudes of 6,000-9,000 m, centred on Mosul, Irbil, Dohuk, Amadiyah and Zakho.

(b) Southern region: 27 sorties, flown by F-4, F-14, F-15 and F-16 aircraft at speeds of 700-800 km/h and at altitudes of 6,500-8,000 m, centred on Nasiriyah, Shatrah, Jalibah, Artawi and Busayyah.

10-11 December 1992

(a) Northern region: 21 sorties, flown at speeds of 600-900 km/h and at altitudes of 5,000-18,000 m, centred on Mosul, Irbil, Dohuk, Zakho, Amadiyah, Tall Afar and Dukan.

(b) Southern region: 31 sorties, flown at speeds of 600-900 km/h and at altitudes of 4,000-9,000 m, centred on Basra, Nasiriyah, Qal'at Salih, Samawah, Busayyah, Salman, Artawi and Ushbayjah.

From 1158 to 1433 hours on 11 December 1992, a United States TR-1 aircraft engaged in hostile aerial reconnaissance of the southern region from an altitude of 20,000 m.

11-12 December 1992

(a) Northern region: 22 sorties, flown at speeds of 600-900 km/h and at altitudes of 2,500-10,000 m, centred on Mosul, Zakho, Dohuk, Irbil, Tall Afar, Amadiyah, Ayn Zalah and Dukan.

On 12 December 1992, a two-aircraft formation dropped heat flares on the Mosul area from a medium altitude.

(b) Southern area: No aerial activity was recorded in the above-mentioned region on this day.

12-13 December 1992

(a) Northern region: 28 sorties, flown at speeds of 600-900 km/h and at altitudes of 6,000-8,000 m, centred on Mosul, Dohuk, Zakho, Amadiyah and Tall Afar.

On 13 December 1992, a two-aircraft formation dropped heat flares on the Fayidah area, Ninawa governorate, from a medium altitude.

(b) Southern region: 32 sorties, flown at speeds of 600-900 km/h and at altitudes of 6,000 to 10,000 m, centred on Amarah, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Salman and Artawi.

From 1220 to 1428 hours on 13 December 1992, a United States TR-1 aircraft engaged in hostile aerial reconnaissance of the southern region from an altitude of 20,000 m.

13-14 December 1992

(a) Northern region: 20 sorties, flown at speeds of 600-900 km/h and at altitudes of 5,000-8,500 m, centred on Mosul, Irbil, Dohuk, Tall Afar, Zakho and Amadiyah.

(b) Southern area: No aerial activity was recorded in the above-mentioned region on this day.

14-15 December 1992

(a) Northern region: 12 sorties, flown at speeds of 600-900 km/h and at altitudes of 5,000-10,000 m, centred on Zakho, Dohuk, Mosul and Amadiyah.

(b) Southern region: 36 sorties, flown at speeds of 600-900 km/h and at altitudes of 4,000-9,000 m, centred on Nasiriyah, Samawah, Salman, Jalibah, Artawi and Qurnah.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as an official document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative